

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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Introduced by: Frizzell, Welch

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION to recognize the need to end childhood obesity.

*Whereas, During the transition from childhood to adulthood, adolescents establish unhealthy patterns of behavior and make poor lifestyle choices that affect both their current and future health;*

*Whereas, Many adolescents may not have access to primary health care and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) encourages the adolescent health care platform to occur in multiple settings, including traditional and non-traditional settings, such as schools;*

*Whereas, Adolescents and young adults are adversely affected by serious health and safety issues such as motor vehicle crashes, violence, and substance abuse. They also struggle to adopt behaviors that could decrease their risk of*



*developing chronic diseases in adulthood—behaviors such as eating nutritiously, engaging in physical activity, and choosing not to use tobacco. Environmental factors such as family, peer group, school, and community characteristics also contribute to the challenges that adolescents face. In the past few years, immunizations have been licensed to provide protection for teens against infections and diseases such as meningitis, pertussis, and cervical cancer;*

*Whereas, The ACIP, American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), American Academy of Family Practitioners (AAFP) and the American Medical Association (AMA) recommend a routine healthcare visit for adolescents aged 11-12 to receive recommended immunizations and other evidence-based preventive healthcare services; and*

*Whereas, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has developed, in conjunction with AAP, the Bright Futures Initiative, which provides a set of guidelines including recommendations on immunizations and routine health screenings for adolescents; and*

*Whereas, NACCHO supports the development of an adolescent health care platform which would address unmet prevention needs among adolescents, including health care screenings and testing, age-appropriate immunizations, injury prevention, obesity prevention and mental health screenings; and*

*Whereas, The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends use of FDA-approved vaccines for pertussis, tetanus, meningitis, and HPV in adolescents; and the CDC has launched a National campaign to raise awareness about adolescent health and immunizations; and*

*Whereas, CDC's National Immunization Survey found that immunization coverage levels among adolescents in 2006 did not meet the Healthy People 2010 objective of 90% coverage for 13-15 year olds for any of the vaccines measured; and*



*Whereas, The Society for Adolescent Medicine has found that adolescent well visits are one of the best tools of preventive care to ensure continued health from childhood to adulthood and that children and adolescents who regularly visit a primary care physician are less likely to have emergency room visits and preventable hospitalizations.*

*Whereas, Because adolescents remain under the guardianship of their parents, parental awareness of the need for an adolescent well visit plays an enormous role in the incidence of adolescent well visits.*

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the  
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That state legislators will seek to improve adolescent health by educating parents on the importance of an adolescent well physical to prevent chronic diseases, appropriately intervene to better treat chronic disease and update immunizations.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representative transmit a copy of this resolution to the Indiana Department of Health and National Association of County and City Health Officials.

